

BART STUPAK

1ST DISTRICT, MICHIGAN

2352 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-2201PHONE: (202) 225-4735
FAX: (202) 225-4744<http://www.house.gov/stupak>
(Email through Website)

SCOTT SCHLOEGEL—CHIEF OF STAFF

TOM BALDINI—DISTRICT DIRECTOR

*Congress of the United States*
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2201**COMMITTEE:**
ENERGY AND COMMERCE**SUBCOMMITTEES:**
HEALTHTELECOMMUNICATIONS AND THE INTERNET
COMMERCE, TRADE, AND CONSUMER PROTECTION
ENVIRONMENT AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**CAUCUS LEADERSHIPS:**
LAW ENFORCEMENT CAUCUS, *Co-CHAIR*
NORTHERN BORDER CAUCUS, *Co-CHAIR*
RURAL CAUCUS**ASSISTANT WHIP**

April 8, 2004

H. Gunner Deery, MD
Chairperson, Infection Control Committee
Northern Michigan Hospital
416 Connable Street
Petoskey, Michigan 49770

Dear Dr. Deery:

I am writing regarding your letter to the editor in the April 2, 2004, Petoskey News Review.

In your letter, you state: "At no time did any report indicate that we have a problem with our infection rates." Will you please then explain your May 21, 2003, infection control memo?

The statements in my guest editorial were taken directly from the meeting minutes of the NMH Infection Control Committee, which you chair. The minutes said that NMH's hospital blood stream infection rate, urinary tract infection rate, and ventilator associated infect rate had increased. The minutes stated the hospital's blood stream infection rate was "the highest rate we have ever had" in the first quarter of 2003. After the hospital was able to achieve its lowest urinary tract infections rate ever in 2002, the committee saw a "significant increase" in the infection rate in the first quarter of 2003. The committee noted an "upward trend" in the ventilator associated infection rates "has been occurring in the last two quarters."

The Hospital should make public its Infection Control Committee meeting minutes from 2003 until the present. In addition, as you indicated in the May 2003 meeting minutes, the committee was taking steps to address the rising infection rates. What are the steps you have taken, and what have the results been?

I look forward to receiving a full picture from you about the hospital's infection control rates and program.

Sincerely,


BART STUPAK
Member of Congress

BTS/sw

PLEASE REPLY TO:

- | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 111 EAST CHISHOLM
ALPENA, MI 49707
(989) 356-0690 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 SOUTH 6TH STREET
SUITE 3
CRYSTAL FALLS, MI 49920
(906) 875-3751 | <input type="checkbox"/> 902 LUDINGTON STREET
ESCANABA, MI 49829
(906) 786-4504 | <input type="checkbox"/> 616 SHELLEN
HOUGHTON, MI 49931
(906) 482-1371 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1229 WEST WASHINGTON
MARQUETTE, MI 49855
(906) 228-3700 | <input type="checkbox"/> 200 DIVISION STREET
PETOSKEY, MI 49770
(231) 348-0657 | <input type="checkbox"/> 512 EAST HOUGHTON AVENUE
WEST BRANCH, MI 48661
(989) 345-2258 |
|--|---|---|--|--|--|--|

DISTRICT TOLL FREE: 800-950-REP1 (7371)

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER